

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 01846 271725Z
ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /050 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0929

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, CS

SUBJECT: MTN CONSULTATIONS WITH CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES

REF: STATE 095905

1. EMBOFF CONVEYED TO VICE MINISTER-DESIGNATE JORGE CORRALES OF MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE (MEIC) THE DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSAL FOR A WORKING LEVEL MEETING ON MTN IN GUATEMALA ON MAY 15. CORRALES INDICATED INTEREST BUT SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO OBTAIN APPROVAL OF MINISTER-DESIGNATE FERNANDO ALTMANN. SUBSEQUENTLY, CORRALES INFORMED EMBASSY THAT NEW GOVERNMENT (WHICH TAKES OFFICE MAY 8) WOULD PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A MEETING IF IT CAN BE ARRANGED. IF JOINT CACM MEETING IS NOT FEASIBLE, MEIC OFFICIALS (INCLUDING CORRALES) WOULD LIKE TO MEET ON A DISCREET BASIS WITH ASSISTANT STR STEPHEN LANDE ON MAY 15 IN SAN JOSE. CORRALES STATED THAT NEW GOVERNMENT IS MOST INTERESTED IN LOWERING LEVELS OF INTERNAL CONSUMPTION TAXES ON SOME IMPORTED GOODS AND BELIEVES SUCH REDUCTIONS MIGHT INTEREST U.S. IN ADDITION, CORRALES INFORMED US THAT NEW GOVERNMENT WILL STRIVE FOR MORE ECONOMIC EFFICIENT, LESS PROTECTIVE TARIFFS WITH CACM. FYI PRESIDENT-ELECT CARAZO TOOK SIMILAR POSITION IN

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PRIVATE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR AND OTHER EMBOFFS AND ALSO POINTED OUT THAT MATTER WOULD BE HANDLED ON A PRIORITY BASIS. END FYI.

2. COMMENT. CORRALES IS A HARD-CHARGING, DYNAMIC, SELF-STYLED FREE-TRADER OF THE FRIEDMAN SCHOOL. POLITICAL REALITIES MAY TEMPER SOME OF HIS THEORETICAL

INCLINATIONS BUT HE WILL BE A FORCE FOR LIBERALIZED
TRADE WITHIN THE GOCR AND CACM.
WEISSMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANJO01846
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Drafter: n/a
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Format: TEL
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978049/aaaaahie.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 1005eeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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